

## EDITORIAL

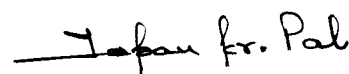
The evolution of recent technological advances in welding processes, equipment, consumables, automation and overall system integration has resulted in new directions of welding technology to satisfy the demands of fabrication industries. The National Welding Seminar (NWS 2015), which is to be held in the beginning of New Year 2015 at Jamshedpur during January 22-24, is expected to focus the trends in development of welding technology through keynote addresses and invited talks delivered by some of the most renowned experts from India and abroad. Also the exhibitions will provide the latest welding technologies by leading equipment and electrode manufactures. This will be a great opportunity for all IIW-India members to get exposed to the new developments taken place at different aspects of welding technology over the years. We expect NWS 2015 to be a very grand success.

Characteristics of surface properties of components with laid on hardfacing for reclamation of used up component surfaces or new components to be subjected to wear and environment attack in service are discussed critically in the paper, "**Effect of Buffer Layer on Interface Bond Strength and Abrasive Wear of Hard Faced Cast Iron**" authored by Nirmal Saha et al. and reported that high nickel buffer layer attributed best performance of interface bond in terms of shear strength and relatively lower nickel buffer electrode attributed best abrasive wear properties which would be of interest to both welding and material engineers.

Friction welding in spite of some inherent drawback is still being used to achieve good quality joint. However, in order to take maximum benefit from the process, optimization of process parameters is almost mandatory. In the paper, "**Optimizing the Friction Welding Parameters to Maximize Tensile Strength of SUS 304HCu Austenitic Stainless Steel Tube Joints**", the authors, Vinoth Kumar et al. attempted optimizing FSW parameters using response surface methodology which finally leads to obtain joint efficiency as high as 99% of SUS304 H Cu grade stainless steel. Interesting R & D areas are thus underscored.

Submerged Arc Welding (SAW) is being extensively used in industries to fabricate several components and structures for their inherent advantages like high deposition rate, deep penetration, high quality weld, excellent surface finish and ease of automation. In fact, with the modification of equipment, SAW is now being used as narrow gap welding to achieve further benefit from the process. In the paper on "**Study the Influence of Heat Input on the Shape Factors and HAZ Width during Submerged Arc Welding**", the authors, Joydeep Ray et al. report on the characteristics of heat input in SAW on weld shape factor and HAZ width. R & D personnel would find interest even under quasi-sophisticated laboratory conditions, yielding useful data.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, we wish you all a very Happy New Year 2015.



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